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STATINTL

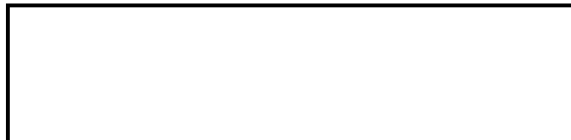
30 December 1977



MEMORANDUM FOR: *Academic Relations*

SUBJECT : The DCI's Annual Report

We have now received the IC Staff's draft of the Annual Report, on which our comments are invited. Attached is the section(s) which you contributed to or may wish to comment on. May I please have your reactions by Noon, 4 January, so that I may put together an NFAC response.



STATINTL

Relations with the Academic Community

The Central Intelligence Agency's dialogue with specialists in academia and private research has broadened and intensified during the last year or so. Even at Harvard, where restrictive guidelines governing relationships between faculty and staff and the Intelligence Community have been promulgated, and at other campuses long unfriendly to the Agency, there seems to be a greater willingness by faculty and students to distinguish between concern over past CIA abuses and the current realities of our work. Improvements have resulted from changing attitudes on campus, a constricted job market for scholars, and other external factors, as well as from the expansion and enhancement of our academic relations program. (U)

In December 1976 the position of the Academic Coordinator, which during the preceding ten years had been the part-time responsibility of one officer, was broadened and upgraded. Two full-time officers were assigned the portfolio, which was augmented to include coordination of relationships with private research centers. Later, with the formulation of the National Foreign Assessment Center, the program was additionally upgraded. Two full-time,

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middle management officers formed the core of the new Academic Relations staff. They conduct independent programs, coordinate the expanding efforts of NFAC officers to improve their ties in academia, and are initiating new programs. In addition, the staff will act as the secretariat for the NFAC Senior Review Panel, the scholar-in-residence program, and other such activities. (U)

The Academic Relations staff maintains regular contact with about 200 leading scholars at universities around the country. During the first ten months of 1977, 32 unclassified Agency publications on Soviet, Chinese, and Latin American subjects were mailed to a total of over a hundred experts in those fields. Approximately 40 other scholars, most of whom are directors of university international studies programs or private research centers, receive copies of other Agency publications. The requests of approximately 70 more scholars for copies of Agency publications or information also were filled by the Academic Relations staff between January and October 1977: (U)

In addition, some NFAC offices maintain their own mailing lists of scholars working in particular disciplines. The Office of Economic Research, for example, sends copies

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of many of its unclassified publications to over 300 economists in the private sector, two-thirds of whom are academicians. All of these efforts help to keep prestigious scholars apprised of some of the Agency's latest research and analysis and provide our analysts with expert review of their work from outside the government. (U)

Outside support for our analytical efforts is provided in other ways as well. Approximately 40 scholars from universities and private research centers visited the Agency to consult with analysts under arrangements made by the Academic Relations staff between January and October 1977. These informal, unpaid consultations were mutually rewarding in most cases. Many analysts also conduct consultations like these independently, of course. (U)

Formal, paid consultations also are increasing. Research offices maintain panels of academic experts to provide continuing advice on production programs, and the Academic Relations staff is developing a list of other scholars who will be called on to consult individually or collectively on future production. Five prominent specialists on Brazil in several disciplines were recently engaged as consultants to advise on a National Intelligence Estimate. Arrangements like this will be a routine aspect of NFAC's expanded academic relations program. (U)

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A new program of dinner symposia with the Director, interested Agency officers and academic experts is also managed by the Academic Coordinator. Offices make unilateral arrangements for consultations as well; through its academic relations committee, the Office of Regional and Political Analysis conducts a guest speaker program under which scholars are paid to make presentations and consult with analysts for a day. (U)

Perhaps the clearest indication of the progress that has recently been made in improving the Agency's ties with academia is the growing participation of our specialists at academic and professional conferences. Between January and October of 1977 approximately 250 of our people attended 150 conferences, conventions, and symposia in their areas of interest. More and more of our specialists are being asked to make presentations at these affairs, and the Academic Relations Staff has helped to stimulate interest both in the Agency and among conference program chairpeople. More than 30 analysts presented scholarly papers as panelists at these meetings last year, including an entire panel made up of CIA specialists at the national convention of the International Studies Association in March. (U)

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A variety of other contacts with the academic community also are flourishing. Thirteen student and academic groups visited the Agency under NFAC/DDI auspices during the first ten months in 1977. Most were briefed by a senior official and toured the Operations Center, and some also heard substantive briefings from analysts. NFAC/DDI representatives accepted fourteen invitations to speak on campuses around the country during the same time period. In all instances the visits were highly successful and uncontroversial. There might be many more campus speaking engagements by our people, except for the restrictions imposed by Agency regulations which prohibit our soliciting invitations or advertising our availability. This year, one NFAC specialist is on a teaching sabbatical on campus and a tenured [] professor is a scholar-in-residence in ORPA. Both of these programs will be expended. (U)

Relations between the Agency and private research centers and their specialists have expanded as well. The Academic Relations Staff has opened a tentative dialogue with the directors of approximately 30 "think tanks," most of them affiliated with universities, and has under consideration many others that offer competence in areas of interest to NFAC research managers. Contacts with other research centers, particularly several in the Washington area, have increased markedly during the last year or so. (U)

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Other aspects of the academic relations program have been effective as well. A periodic newsletter, "Notes on Academic Relations," is circulated to all analysts in NFAC. The Academic Relations Staff composes this publication with the main objective of informing analysts of developments in Agency-academic relations, of the areas of competence of certain research centers, of participation by our people at conferences and meetings. These and other efforts now being considered are important means of keeping intelligence specialists informed of one another's outside and academic activities, as well as keeping them abreast of developments in academia that may be relevant to their own research. (U)

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